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On October 22d, the comet is in conjunction with the Sun in R. A. and becomes an evening object. It should be again visible from southern stations (only) about November 1st and for a month after. Its greatest theoretical brightness will be on October 20th, at the time of its passing perihelion, when it will be seven times as bright as at discovery. On September 23d, it was just visible to the naked eye against a dark sky. Some of the absolute dimensions may be of interest. The head is 4′ in diameter, as seen with the 12-inch telescope, which corresponds to an actual diameter of 150,000 miles. With the same telescope, the tail can be traced for ¼° (the tail is in all probability several times this length), or a length of about 600,000 miles. After passing perihelion, the comet will be close to the planet *Mercury* for a week or more, the distance ranging from 6,000,000 to 8,000,000 miles. The longitudes and distances from the Sun of both *Mercury* and the comet are very nearly the same, but owing to their different nodes, inclinations, and motions in their orbits, they do not make as close an approach as otherwise they would. At this distance of 6,000,000 miles, the comet would be a striking object as seen from *Mercury*, the head 1½° in diameter, the tail 5° or 6° in length. The brightness would be over 150 times that on September 27th as seen from the Earth, when it was visible to the unaided eye. This would make it more conspicuous than a first-magnitude star. C. D. PERRINE.

September 28, 1898.

ELEMENTS OF THE MINOR PLANET, 1898 *DQ*.

From the mean of the two Kiel observations of August 15th by Dr. RISTENPART, and my own observations of September 6th and 27th, I have computed the following elements of this interesting planet:—

Epoch 1898, August 31.5 G. M. T.

$$\left.\begin{aligned} \omega &= 176^\circ\ 52'\ 17''.6 \\ \Omega &= 303\ \ 23\ \ 45\ .2 \\ i &= \ \ 10\ \ 44\ \ 43\ .3 \end{aligned}\right\} \text{Ecliptic and Mean Equinox of 1898.0}$$

$$\phi = 12\ \ 49\ \ 40\ .7$$

$$\log a = 0.164038$$

$$\mu = 2013''.491$$

Period = 643.66 days = 1.76 years.

In obtaining these elements, the observations were fully corrected for parallax and aberration. The interval embraced by the observations is 43 days; during this time the planet described a heliocentric arc of about 17°.

According to these elements, the perihelion distance of this planet is only 105,440,000 miles, or nearly 23,000,000 miles less than that of *Mars*, and only 11,000,000 greater than the aphelion distance of the Earth. Its periodic time is nearly a year less than that of any other asteroid. W. J. HUSSEY.

ASTRONOMICAL TELEGRAMS.

(Translations.)

BOSTON, Mass., September 5, 1898.
To Lick Observatory: (Received 9:50 P. M.)

KREUTZ announces planet *DQ* remarkable orbit. Perihelion within *Mars*' orbit. Element μ [=daily motion] 2,000″.

(Signed) JOHN RITCHIE, Jr.

[A further note on this asteroid will be found on another page of this number. The telegram included an ephemeris, which is here omitted.]

Lick Observatory, September 13, 1898.
To Harvard College Observatory:
To Students' Observatory, Berkeley: (Sent 10 A. M.)

A bright comet was discovered by C. D. PERRINE, September 13.040 G. M. T., in R. A. $9^h\ 33^m\ 53^s$; Decl. $+\ 31°\ 4'$. The daily motion in R. A. is $+\ 6^m$; in Decl. $-\ 30'$.

Lick Observatory, September 14, 1898.
To Harvard College Observatory:
To Students' Observatory, Berkeley: (Sent 2:51 P. M.)

Comet PERRINE was observed by C. D. PERRINE on September 13.0404 G. M. T.; in R. A. $9^h\ 35^m\ 49^s.3$; Decl. $+\ 31°\ 4'\ 31''$; and on September 14.0145 G. M. T.; in R. A. $9^h\ 41^m\ 43^s.8$; Decl. $+\ 30°\ 35'\ 19''$.

BOSTON, Mass., September 14, 1898.
To Lick Observatory: (Received 2:10 P.M.)

A faint comet was discovered by PECHÜLE, at Copenhagen, on September 13.6230 G. M. T.; in R. A. $6^h\ 38^m\ 3^s.5$; Decl. $+\ 8°\ 55'\ 40''$. Its daily motion in R. A. is $+\ 30'$; in Decl. $-\ 20'$. It is probably Comet TEMPEL, 1866 I.

(Signed) JOHN RITCHIE, Jr.